





# THE BRITISH COLONIST

Tuesday Morning, April 17, 1866.

## To Advertisers & the Public

THE DAILY BRITISH COLONIST, published every morning (except on Sundays and public holidays) at the office of the Proprietor, No. 10, Market Street, Victoria, B. C.

Resident Subscribers may have the same left at their residence at 25 cents per week, by forwarding their address at the Office of Publication.

THE WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST, published every Tuesday, will be sent on or at the residence of Subscribers, ready for mailing, at 5 cents per week, payable to the carrier.

**BIRTHS, DEATHS, AND MARRIAGES.**  
In future all notices of Births, Deaths, and Marriages intended for insertion in this paper must be sent to the Editor, at the Office of Publication, No. 10, Market Street, Victoria, B. C., and not to the printer, as heretofore.

**JOB PRINTING.**  
THE BRITISH COLONIST, PUBLISHED WEEKLY, has a large addition to their stock of new and beautiful printing type, will execute orders to any extent with neatness and dispatch, at a slight advance on San Francisco prices.

## TO THE MINERS OF CALIFORNIA.

We have purposely abstained hitherto from sending abroad any glowing accounts from the newly-discovered mines in British Columbia as the circumstances really warranted; for the simple reason that it would have been highly injurious to the prospects of the country to have induced any large influx of people to these colonies at a time when the proper facilities were not in existence for reaching the mines. If instead of the few hundred persons we have been lately receiving from San Francisco, as many thousands had landed on our shores, as many thousands had a reaction that would have proved little short of disastrous to our prospects the present year. All such risks, however, are now gone. By the time this reaches our California readers, the travel between Victoria and Big Bend will be both easy and rapid. Miners will be enabled to reach the diggings in at least one half the time which the journey via Portland will consume, and provisions will be packed through to the mines at a figure that will seem almost insignificant when compared with freights to Idaho, Montana, or even Cariboo. Our New Westminster contemporary puts down the probable maximum price of provisions at Big Bend during the season at 20 cents per pound; but allowing over a margin of fifty per cent. over this computation, or 30 cents a pound, and we shall have a rate immeasurably below that of any of the other great Northern gold mines—a rate that will enable the miners to live throughout the season for about \$8 a week.

When we take into consideration the actual prospects which have been obtained up till the present time at Big Bend—Dupuy's hill claim taking out \$2,500 in eight days—two of the party having in one of the days taken out \$800; the Discovery claim taking 60 ounces out in one day, and averaging throughout from two to four ounces to the hand; and Shep Bailey's claim taking out in a few days \$1,500, we are able to form some idea of the richness of the auriferous region in the vicinity of the great bend of the Columbia river. What makes these facts the more gratifying is that the creek which turned out so well—French creek—runs only from six to fifteen feet in depth. On Cariboo creek, where from \$15 to \$60 a day were obtained last season to the bend, the ground runs much deeper, a shaft of 36 feet having been sunk without coming to the bed-rock. The latest news from Cariboo Creek announces the discovery of rich bank claims and a great excitement in consequence. On McCulloch's Creek the claims averaged from two to three ounces a day to the hand. The accounts so far this season more than corroborate the stories which were circulated during the winter; and we have no doubt as summer advances we shall have facts to publish concerning our new mines that will startle the Pacific coast. Over a tract of country which has been proved to be highly auriferous for a distance of about one hundred miles, it would be contrary to all experience to suppose that large "strikes" will not be made; but it is not in this well grounded supposition that we would invite the miners of California to Big Bend—it is on the fact that the diggings are easily worked, that the gold is plentifully diffused, and that an extensive virgin field presents itself to the enterprising miner. When we compare the chances of any other mining region on the continent with those of Big Bend, we can with truth affirm that they are meagre in the extreme. We have already had accounts of the prospects of Montana and Idaho—a few gold claims, an infinity of bad ones, and a large number of the population with no claims at all—suffering the while the greatest hardships. If we look at the recently discovered mines in Central America, which have allured thousands of unfortunate people from California, we shall find no end of disappointment and destitution. The letter of the American Consul, given in our yesterday's issue, warns the miners of the danger of going to these gold fields with a less sum after travelling expenses are paid than \$500. It is evident therefore these are not the diggings for the California public. There is in fact no gold country which possesses a tithe of the substantial attractions that Big Bend affords to-day, and when we couple with this fact the cheapness of reaching the mines and the low price at which provisions will range during the ensuing season, we think we are placing before the California miner a field for his enterprise unequalled in any other auriferous country.

## TO SHIPBUILDERS

In Victoria, British Columbia and Puget Sound.

TENDERS WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR building the HULLS ONLY of two vessels, of average strength of material.

Respective lengths, 100 feet, 85 feet, breadth, 16 feet, 14 feet; depths moulded, 12 feet, 10 feet. It is required that the above hulls should be completed separately, and dispatched expeditiously to the undersigned, at Wells, Fargo & Co.'s Express Office, San Francisco.

ATTEST: AUGUSTUS PRATELY, Jr.

## HAVANA CIGARS.

LEWIS & ANTHONY, TOBACCONISTS,

47 Yates Street, Brick Store next to Corner of Government Street.

TO INFORM THEIR FRIENDS and the public in general that they will continue to receive by every steamer a good assortment of GENUINE HAVANA CIGARS, and the BEST HAVANA TOBACCO, imported direct for this market, so that they are able to compete with any house on this island, either within or without.

Special attention will be paid to Country orders.

HEYMANN LEWIS, LOUIS ANTHONY.

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# NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

For Sale.

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HER MAJESTY'S TABLE.

C & B are AGENTS for LEA & PERKINS' celebrated WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE, and are Manufacturers of every description of Pickles, of the highest quality.

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